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ACTION EA-12
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY BAFlook DATE 2/12/80

P R 190858Z SEP 77
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6491
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN PINT KS US
SUBJ: KOREAN PRESS COVERAGE OF PAK TONG-SUN CASE
REF: SEOUL 7903 (DTG 161024Z SEP 77)
SUMMARY: PRESS FEATURES COMMENTS BY PAK ATTORNEY HUNDLEY, NOW IN SEOUL, STRESSING THIRD-COUNTRY MEETING WITH US INVESTIGATORS. OTHER ARTICLES COMMENT ON "MUCK-RAKING" ATMOSPHERE IN U.S. AND CONTINUE PROTEST OF AMERICAN "UNFAIRNESS." HUNDLEY PROMISES HE AND PAK WILL HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 21.
1.END SUMMARY.
1. ON SEPTEMBER 17-18, KOREAN VERNACULAR PRESS RAN ON FRONT PAGES STORIES OF ARRIVAL IN SEOUL OF WILLIAM HUNDLEY, PAK'S WASHINGTON LAWYER, BUT MOST OF COVERAGE OF PAK TONG-SON AFFAIR, INCLUDING SEVERAL LONG FEATURES, WAS ON INSIDE PAGES. CHOSON ILBO SEPTEMBER 18 REPORTED HUNDLEY HAD SAID HE PLANNED TO MEET WITH PAK AS WELL AS WITH ROKG OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SETTLEMENT OF PAK AFFAIR
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AND THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT PAK WOULD ACCEPT HIS PLAN FOR PAK TO BE INTERROGATED IN A THIRD COUNTRY. HUNDLEY SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHICH COUNTRY MIGHT BE CHOSEN (ALTHOUGH LONDON WAS A POSSIBILITY) AND THAT, ALTHOUGH HE HAD MET WITH OFFICIALS OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), HE HAD NOT TALKED WITH JAWORSKI AND KNEW NOTHING OF HIS PLANS. HUNDLEY SAID HE WOULD LEAVE KOREA AROUND SEPTEMBER 23. PRESS SEPTEMBER 19 REPORTS HE HAS MET WITH PAK SEVERAL TIMES SINCE ARRIVAL.
2. INSIDE FEATURES INCLUDED LONG PIECE ON ATMOSPHERE IN WASHINGTON BY TONGA ILBO'S YI UNG-HUI, POINTING TO MUCK-RAKING ATMOSPHERE IN WASHINGTON AND POLITICAL OVERTONES OF DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICAN RIVALRY IN PROSECUTION OF CASE. YI CONCLUDES WITH HOPE MEETING BETWEEN FONMIN PAK AND SECSTATE VANCE WILL SOMEHOW SOLVE CASE. SEOUL SINMUN RAN TWO LONG ITEMS FRIDAY: A POEM BY YI PONG-NAE COMMENTING ON VAGUENESS OF CHARGES AGAINST PAK AND OBVIOUS AMERICAN DESIRE TO "THROW THE NOOSE" POEM COMPARES U.S. DEMANDS ON KOREA NOW TO PERIOD OF COLONIALISM UNDER JAPAN. WHILE RECALLING U.S. REFUSALS TO HELP JAPAN WITH LOCKHEED CASE AND FOK IN CASE OF ONE "WHO TURNED HIS BACK ON HIS COUNTRY"
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(APPARENTLY KIM SANG-GUN). POET SPECULATES WHETHER CARTER'S MORALITY AND CRUSADE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE JUST FOR POPULARITY. DEPUTY EDITOR PAK TONG-SU ALSO WRITES OF U.S. "PRIDE AND PREJUDICE", POINTS OUT ROK IS NO LONGER "THE OLD KOREA", AND APPEALS FOR SETTLEMENT OF ISSUE BY "RATIONAL MEANS," BASED ON RESPECT FOR KOREAN SOVEREIGNTY.

3. AFTERNOON PAPERS SEPTEMBER 19 ALL CARRY STORIES THAT FONMIN PAK WILL MEET WITH SECSTATE VANCE SEPTEMBER 20, A WEEK EARLIER THAN ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED.

4. EMBASSY INFORMED THAT ATTORNEY HUNDLEY TOLD AMERICAN PRESS IN TOKYO THAT HE AND PAK WOULD HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN SEOUL

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ON WEDNESDAY 9/21).

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